

movement. Applicant's device is intended solely for orthodontic and has no effect on the temporomandibular joint.

In further support of claim 1, Applicant claims a solid flat resilient interdental mouthpiece that transfers vibrations from the housing containing the motor driven vibrating unit to the teeth of both the upper and lower jaw. The vibrations promote increased blood flow to the teeth for eliminating ischemia response. The mouth pieces of the cited references are not solid flat resilient mouthpieces nor is either interdental as claimed by Applicant.

Claims 2-9 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 1 and should, therefore, be allowable as should claim 1.

In further support of claim 3, Applicant claims that the mouthpiece is positioned on a plane parallel to the longest dimension of the housing. The reference positions both upper and lower jaw mouthpieces on a plane normal to the longest dimension of the equivalent housing 12.

In further support of claim 4, Applicant claims that the interdental mouthpiece is attached to the external surface of the housing. The cited reference teaches attachment of the two

mouthpieces directly to the motor driven shaft.

In further support of claim 5, Applicant claims that the housing attachment of the mouthpiece has an aperture therethrough for receiving the distal end of the housing and frictionally maintains the attachment of the mouthpiece to the housing. This unique attachment of the mouthpiece to the outside of the housing by friction is not taught by the cited reference.

In further support of claims 6 and 7, Applicant claims that the mouthpiece is removably received within a slot in the housing and is locked in place in the slot by a lock means. These unique features are not taught by the cited reference.

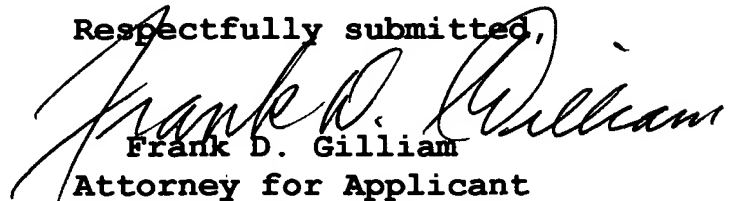
In further support of claim 9, Applicant claims a mouthpiece that is constructed of a soft material flexible enough to adapt to the teeth of the patient and transfer sufficient vibrations to the teeth of the patient. The mouthpieces of the reference that engage the teeth are not formed of any soft material. The teeth engaging surfaces are formed from depressions filled with a hard acrylic material.

Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration of
the claims now in the application and their allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,


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